

## CLAIMS

1. A method for controlling the communication functionality of a mobile phone comprising:
  - 5 - providing (104) configuration data;
  - receiving (108) configuration data; and
  - controlling (110) the availability of the voice transmission functionality of the mobile phone according to the configuration data.
- 10 2. A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the configuration data is received via the user interface of the mobile phone.
3. A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the configuration data is received via a network serving the mobile phone.
- 15 4. A method as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the availability of the voice transmission functionality is controlled by impeding access to said functionality.
- 20 5. A method as claimed in Claim 4, wherein impeding comprises prompting the use of an alternative transmission functionality.
6. A method as claimed in Claim 4 or 5, wherein impeding comprises delaying access to the voice transmission functionality.
- 25 7. A method as claimed in any of preceding Claim, wherein the availability of the voice transmission functionality is controlled in accordance with a pre-determined budget.
- 30 8. A method as claimed in Claim 7, wherein the budget is the time duration of voice calls using the mobile phone.

9. A method as claimed in Claim 7, wherein the budget is based on the time duration of voice transmission from the mobile phone.

10. A method as claimed in Claim 8 or 9, wherein the time duration is  
5 measured over a pre-determined time interval.

11. A system for controlling the communication functionality of a mobile phone comprising:

- 10 an interface (202, 204) arranged to enable a controller to input configuration data;
- a data terminal (208) operable to receive the configuration data from the interface and to communicate the configuration data to a network;
- a network (210) comprising a base station (212) operable to receive the configuration data and to communicate with a mobile phone; and
- 15 a mobile phone (214) operable to communicate with the base station and to control the availability of its voice transmission functionality according to the configuration data.

12. A system as claimed in Claim 11, wherein the interface is a Web form  
20 running on a Web browser, the input configuration data comprises data within the Web form, and the data terminal is further operable to extract the data within the Web form and to compose a data message comprising corresponding configuration data for the network.

25 13. A system as claimed in Claim 11, wherein the interface is a telephone (204), the input configuration data comprises a verbal command, and the data terminal is further operable to transcode the verbal command to a data message comprising corresponding configuration data for the network.

30 14. A mobile phone comprising:

- a user interface arranged to enable a controller to input configuration data; and

- a processor operable to receive the configuration data from the user interface and to control the availability of the voice transmission functionality of the mobile phone according to the configuration data.

5 15. A record carrier comprising software operable to carry out the method of any of claims 1 to 10.

16. A software utility configured for carrying out the method steps as claimed in any of claims 1 to 10.

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17. A mobile phone for use in a system as claimed in any of Claims 11 to 13 and operating under control of a software utility as claimed in Claim 16.